

Patent Application
Attorney Docket No.: 26346-1

REMARKS

The following remarks are in response to the Office Action mailed on June 22, 2004. Prior to entrance of this Amendment, claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7-12, 14, 15, 17-23 were pending in this Application. Upon entrance of this Amendment, claims 20-23 will remain pending in this Application.

In the Office Action, claims 10 and 17-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Solberg et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,085,535). Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 8, 9, 11, 12, 14 and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Solberg et al. in view of Howard (U.S. Patent No. 4,964,842). Claim 7 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Solberg et al. in view of Howard and further in view of Blanchfield et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,531,536). Response is hereby made to all of the above noted rejections.

As a preliminary matter, Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 20-23.

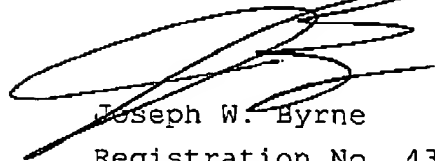
Applicant has herein cancelled, without prejudice, claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7-12, 14, 15, 17-19. It should be understood that Applicant does not agree with the Examiner's rejections of claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7-12, 14, 15, 17-19 and is only cancelling these claims at this time to advance the prosecution of the Application. Applicant reserves the right to pursue claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7-12, 14, 15, 17-19 as originally filed or claims having a scope consistent with claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7-12, 14, 15, 17-19, in a later application.

Accordingly, in view of this Amendment and these Remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the Application should be allowed. The Examiner is invited to telephone the

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undersigned below if it will aid in the prosecution of this
Application.

Respectfully submitted,



Joseph W. Byrne

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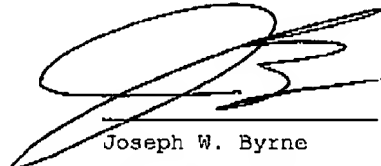
Dated: December 22, 2004

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Date: 12/22/2004



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